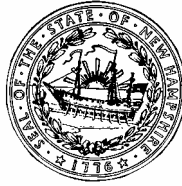


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DATE: December 6, 2005

TO: Superintendents
FROM: Lyonel B. Tracy
SUBJECT: HQT Bulletin #2

The New Hampshire Elementary Education K-6 HOUSSE Rubric is now available to demonstrate content knowledge. The United States Department of Education (USDE) concurs that this HOUSSE meets the statutory requirements for HQT under No Child Left Behind. Certified K-6 elementary teachers with at least one year of experience should read items 1-2 to determine which components of HOUSSE you will need to complete. Teachers with less than one year of experience are not eligible to complete the HOUSSE and should refer to the information in item 3 of this bulletin to demonstrate content knowledge in elementary education content (reading/English Language Arts[ELA], mathematics, science, and social studies).

1. **The State-Level section of the HOUSSE plan demonstrates that certified elementary education teachers in grades K-6 who:**

- a. hold a New Hampshire certification #1811 or 1866; **and**
- b. have **completed** at least three years of teaching; **and**
- c. have completed an elementary teacher preparation program in New Hampshire or an elementary teacher preparation program out of state; **and**
- d. have completed one recertification cycle in New Hampshire

have met the requirement for demonstrating content knowledge for Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) for grades K-6 in elementary education content (reading/ELA, mathematics, science, and social studies).

Teachers who meet the criteria above (a-d) must document HQT in grades K-6 for elementary content (reading/ELA, mathematics, science, and social studies) by completing pages 5-6 "HQT Qualifying Documentation Form" and page 10 "Highly Qualified Teacher Assurance Form." Teachers should keep a copy of the State-Level HOUSSE for their records, and the SAU will maintain a copy.

2. The elementary K-6 HOUSSE Rubric is now available for teachers in grades K-6 who teach the elementary education content (reading/ELA, mathematics, science, and social studies); **and**
 - a. hold an 1811 or 1866 New Hampshire certification and have at least one full year of teaching but fewer than three full years of teaching experience; **or**
 - b. hold other New Hampshire certificates (that cover the grade range of K-6) including special education and English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) who provide direct instruction in the elementary education content (reading/ELA, mathematics, science, and social studies).

Teachers who meet the criteria above (a or b) may demonstrate content knowledge for HQT in grades K-6 for elementary education content (reading/ELA, mathematics, science, and social studies) by completing pages 5-11 of the HOUSSE Rubric. Teachers should keep a copy of the HOUSSE Rubric for their records, and the SAU will maintain a copy.

As always, the elementary content test is another HQT option for teachers to demonstrate content knowledge in reading/ELA, mathematics, science, and social studies. See item 3 for test information.

3. Teachers with less than one year of experience are not eligible to complete the HOUSSE Rubric until the end of their first year. To address HQT requirements prior to completing their first full year, teachers must take and pass the Praxis II elementary content test #10014 (passing score 148) **or** the ABCTE elementary content test **or** have passed a content test for elementary education in another state for certification or for HQT.

Reminder - Three components are needed to be HQT:

- a. minimum of a Bachelor's degree
- b. NH certification that covers the grade range
- c. Demonstration of content knowledge

The HOUSSE plan is one option to demonstrate content knowledge.
Testing is also a demonstration of content knowledge.